

Board Approves Continued Housing Transformation



In October, the UK Board of Trustees authorized the next phase of a public-private partnership to construct more than 2,300 modern residence hall beds -- five new residence halls -- over the next two years. Combined with the New Central Hall construction initiated last April, more than 2,900 beds will soon be under construction -- perhaps the largest and quickest expansion of housing at any time in UK's history.



The new residence halls -- located at Cooperstown on South Campus, a new Haggin Hall on Central Campus and near Memorial Coliseum on North Campus -- will be a combination of two and four bedroom suites. The North Campus construction will include the demolition of the old Wildcat Lodge and the use of the Blazer Parking Lot of construction. Depending upon their configurations and size, suites may come with one or two baths, kitchenettes and living areas.



In total, UK is considering a public-private partnership with EdR over the next 5 to 7 years in which the private company would invest about \$500 million to replace much of the University's current housing stock of about 5,200 beds, which average nearly 50 years in age. The University goal is to accommodate up to 9,000 undergraduate students on campus.



Utilizing a third-party to provide equity financing for this massive construction will result in more modern beds being built on campus in a more cost-effective way. At the same time, using a private company to finance the construction minimizes impact on UK's debt capacity -- a critical element in the university's ability to debt-finance other necessary construction such as classroom buildings and research facilities over the next several years.



UK First Public University to Launch Online Master's in Arts Administration

Recently, the University of Kentucky announced the launch of a new online Master of Arts degree in arts administration created to prepare students for leadership roles in arts organizations – the first offered in the United States at a public university. The 36-credit hour graduate degree is designed to educate and inspire students to excel as the next generation of arts leaders.

The program's curriculum includes 12 courses covering topics such as management and leadership, marketing, fundraising, arts and the law, financial management, and social and cultural entrepreneurship. The program also focuses on the use of arts administration technologies with a dedicated course on the topic, as well as using appropriate technology in every course curriculum.

Record Numbers, Quality Mark UK's First-year Enrollment

This Fall, UK welcomed its largest, most diverse and best prepared first-year class in history with an impressive number of National Merit Finalists and record numbers of Singletary Scholars and Governor's Scholars. Details of the first-year class include:



Record Quality

- 71 National Merit/National Achievement Finalists - up from 29 last year - placing UK among Baylor, Cornell, Duke and Berkeley, institutions with similar numbers of National Merit Scholars.
- A record number of Singletary Scholars - 51 - up from 34 last year. Additional support was provided by UK's Athletics; contributing about \$3 million annually for academic scholarships.
- 427 students from Governor's Scholars or Governor's School for the Arts - up from 394.
- 182 valedictorians, up from 154 last fall

Record Diversity

- 533 African-American first-year students, a 26 percent increase.
- 166 Hispanic first-year students, a 44 percent increase.
- 110 first-year international students, a 96 percent increase.

Record Numbers

- 4,645 first-year students, up from 4,139 last year.
- A total enrollment of 28,935 with 20,882 undergraduate students - both record enrollments.
- A record number of applications at 18,802 - a 24 percent increase from last year.

